



HISTORIC: President Obama and his wife Michelle Obama at the US Supreme Court. Judge Sonia Sotomayor.

Obama chooses 1st Hispanic for Supreme Court

WASHINGTON—AFTER MAKING HISTORY by nominating the first Hispanic justice for the Supreme Court, US President Barack Obama is proving the Senate to quickly confirm his choice of federal appeals judge Sonia Sotomayor for the country's most powerful tribunal.

ACROSS / A13

2 agri execs accused in Esperat slay lose appeal, now fugitives

NEWS / A2

Sandigan OKs Imelda's trip to Singapore

NEWS / A2

Con-ass proponents admit they lack votes to pass amendment

WORLD / A19

Mike Tyson's daughter, 4, dies in home accident

PHILIPPINEDAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Thursday, May 18, 2009 ** 3 sections / Vol. 24 / No. 149 P18 www.inquirer.net

Enrile complains of vanishing 'e-loads'

By Christine O. Amador

IT'S PLAIN AND SIMPLE: THE VANISHING 'e-LOADS'.

Enrile said he has no phone 'load' at the moment.



US offers \$2.5-M bounty for 3 Abu leaders

WASHINGTON—THE UNITED STATES on Tuesday offered up to \$2.5 million in rewards for tips leading to the capture of three leaders of the Abu Sayyaf kidnapping group.

The state department announced a reward of up to \$1 million for information on Abdullah Sahiron, described as a senior leader of the Abu Sayyaf.

Washington is also offering up to \$500,000 for information on Ruzar Mardani, an alleged leader and co-mandant of the Abu Sayyaf, blamed for some of the worst attacks in the Philippines.

Abu Sayyaf is a foreign terrorist organization. The U.S. is linked to al-Qaida and blamed for the 2002 Bali bombings and other attacks in Southeast Asia. The United States described as a US OFFICIAL

'It's presidency or bust for Gibo'

Wife warns of Lakas-Kampi pullout if ...



TEODORO ON TEODORO: Pangalanan-Pangalanan is stronger.

By Philip C. Tobias

"VERY POWERFUL PEOPLE" ARE PREPARED TO BACK Defense Secretary Gilbert "Gibo" Teodoro if the administration coalition does not declare him its standard-bearer for the 2010 presidential election, his wife warned yesterday.

According to Teodoro's wife, Maria Teodoro, certain members of the close-to-legendary Lakas-Kampi (Kampi, civil society and big business have informed her and her husband of their readiness to support his independent run for the presidency if and when.

Her remarks were made in reaction to reports that Interior Secretary Remberto Pano was positioning himself as Vice President Noli de Castro's running mate in 2010, and that Lakas-Kampi was also considering a De Castro-Teodoro tandem.

Teodoro, who announced in February his intention to run for president in 2010, told reporters yesterday that a Teodoro-Pano ticket would be a "very strong" combination for the country.



WOMAN INTERRUPTED: Rep. Noli Teodoro warns that if her husband is not GMK's "standard-bearer," certain Lakas-Kampi members are set to back the party with "very powerful businessmen" prepared to back him as an independent candidate.

"If it will be based solely on our relationship with each other, it will be a very strong tandem and this will be for the good of our country because we have a good [working] relationship and we both have [sound] experience," he said.

In a phone interview, he said he was "making the consultation for the presidency and looking also."

Noli Teodoro clarified that her husband was not yet thinking of striking

De Castro, Teodoro on parade at Lakas-Kampi merger rites

By Christian V. Espinosa, T. Burgin and Michael Lim-Ulat

THE ADMINISTRATION'S TOP presidential aspirants, Vice President Noli de Castro and Defense Secretary Gilbert Teodoro, will be paraded today during the official signing of the merger between the ruling parties Lakas-CMD and KKKP at Malapang, Pangasinan.

Executive Secretary Edgardo Kratoch will also attend while allowing officials of the Lakas-Kampi-CMD to "scrutinize" (select) the two candidates and the alliance committee to assess who would be the better presidential candidate.

De Castro

4 more RP flu cases confirmed

By Dona Paziligan

FOUR MORE PEOPLE IN THE Philippines have been confirmed to have the A(H1N1) virus, bringing the total number of the rare influenza cases in the country to six, the Department of Health (DOH) said yesterday.

Among the latest confirmed cases, all Filipinos, are a two-year-old female baby who arrived from the United States on May 19, a 13-year-old boy who arrived from Hong Kong on May 23, a 26-year-old woman and a 55-year-old man. Health Secretary Francisco Duque III reported in a briefing.

Doque said the DOH is expecting more confirmed cases in the coming weeks due to its intensive contact tracing and heightened awareness among the public.



HOMELAND SECURITY: President Arroyo awards the first set of registered titles for ancestral domains in Central Luzon starting with about 414 Ancestral Families in Floridablanca, Pangasinan. They are also the holders of the first Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title to be registered among 21 CADTs in the country. Mr. Arroyo is assisted by the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples in partnership with the Project Development Institute.

'We were fed bananas once a day'

By Julie S. Alipala

ZAMBOANGA CITY—THREE TEACHERS lived also more than four months under Abu Sayyaf captivity recently recounted their ordeal yesterday at the hands of their kidnapers.

Jaime delos Angeles, Raphael Maguindao and Fervin Quinsan, who were kidnapped off Landing Gun Island here on Jan. 23, said they could not describe how they felt when they were finally released on Tuesday in Basilan.

During a press conference, the teachers said that they were fed boiled banana once a day and porridge once in a while. For the most part, they spent the night sleeping on the ground.

"Whatever there's, the water runs through where we were designated to sleep, it was really very hard."

WE WERE AT

Villar: Not enough Senate votes to reprimand or expel me

By Christine O. Amador and Michael Lim-Ulat

SHOULD HE BE ADMONISHED GUILTY of unethical behavior, Sen. Manny Villar Jr. doubts whether there would be enough votes for the Senate to impose on him the censure sanction of expulsion.

"You need 16 votes to expel," Villar said on Tuesday, and reckoned that the chamber acting as a committee of the

whole would not be able to muster that number.

"On a per se," he said of the expulsion sanction. "It's the higher sanction of reprimand, which requires 13 votes. I doubt whether they can get a supermajority [vote]." Villar said over dinner with business edition and reporters.

The chamber is made up of 20 senators, but Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV, who is facing trial for his involvement in

military coup attempts, is not allowed to vote.

"Whether I will be judged guilty or not guilty, it will depend on members, not on evidence," Villar said. He said he did not think all the 12 senators who voted for his full-blown impeachment would vote against him at the end of the trial.

The Senate committee of the whole has scheduled on June 1 and 4 the trial

VILLAR AT CROSSROADS

There's a good side to Villar's "public prosecutor," engineer, Sen. Manny Villar says, by the "prosecution" in the Senate. It's helping his campaign, he says, prepared to answer



VILLAR AT

WEATHER FORECAST
[PHOTO] Surfer at beach corner the when surfed
[Caption] Surfer at beach corner the when surfed
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Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud
Manila	28-32	10-15	Partly Cloudy
Cebu	28-32	10-15	Partly Cloudy
Davao	28-32	10-15	Partly Cloudy
Iloilo	28-32	10-15	Partly Cloudy
Baguio	18-22	10-15	Partly Cloudy
Alabang	28-32	10-15	Partly Cloudy
Clark	28-32	10-15	Partly Cloudy
Subic	28-32	10-15	Partly Cloudy
San Juan	28-32	10-15	Partly Cloudy
Marikina	28-32	10-15	Partly Cloudy
Antipolo	28-32	10-15	Partly Cloudy
Taguig	28-32	10-15	Partly Cloudy
Las Alamos	28-32	10-15	Partly Cloudy
Alibon	28-32	10-15	Partly Cloudy
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Alibon	28-32	10-15	Partly Cloudy

Second FRONT PAGE

Small text and graphics including a cartoon character.

6/23 SUELTREES

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13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36

MEGALOTTO 6/45
3 18 23 33 40 44
P48,799,459.80

Con-ass lacks votes in House

By Philip C. Tobias
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WILL HAVE a hard time mustering the necessary three-fourths vote by itself to propose amendments to the Constitution without the Senate, House Majority Leader Amador Delos Santos said yesterday.

The House rules committee, which Delos Santos heads, is set to consider for plenary debate the proposed amendments in 1999 calling for Congress, sitting as a single body, to constitute itself into a constituent assembly to make amendments to the Charter.

According to Delos Santos, the House needs the Senate's support to pass the amendments.

"The House goes to it alone," said Delos Santos in a statement yesterday. "Delos Santos said many members believe that the House cannot proceed with proposing amendments to the Constitution without the participation of the Senate. He will tell the Committee on Rules, 'I cannot see a resolution passed by the House without the participation of the Senate,' he said.

But he did not think it was necessary to introduce legislation in the House as a matter of the resolution of the committee on constitutional amendments who voted against HR 1189 to the committee on rules who would if de-

livered to the plenary and so it had enough votes.

"I believe that out of all who voted in support of HR 1189 to the plenary, only 100 voted," he said.

"Many believe that the House of Representatives will not readily pass proposed amendments without the Senate. We would like to see an end to the vote," Delos Santos said.

Meanwhile, he said that the House vote on HR 1189 and decided whether to go to the Senate, however, may have at least gone to the Supreme Court to stop Congress from changing the Charter.

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Sandigan lets Imelda travel to Singapore

By Edwin C. Tanaka Jr.

THE SANDIGANBAHON TRIBUNAL (ST) ruled Imelda Marcos, the widow of the late former President Marcos, to travel to Singapore for ST to get an eye check-up and physical therapy.

Justice Maria Christina Beland granted Imelda's urgent motion, "considering her medical condition and the fact that she has traveled before and has come back."

Imelda, 68, said to be allowed to travel from June 2 to 12.

The former first lady has undergone eye surgery since she was diagnosed with cataracts and glaucoma in her left eye in November 2000, doctors announced to the court then.

In a letter to the court, Imelda's sister, Imelda Marcos, expressed concern for her mother's condition.

Imelda is one of the respondents in some 18 cases before the ST and has been in the government custody to recover the 80 pesos worth of her share in the family and her assets.

Marcos said that "given her [Imelda's] medical condition, doctors and age, a thorough check-up must first be made, followed by necessary discussions among the doctors who are concerned that our mother may suffer."

Roque makes it; Dick stalls Yano

By Christine D. Mendoza

THE COMMISSION ON APPROPRIATIONS approved yesterday the appointment of former Secretary of Education Florencio B. Yano as the new head of the Department of Education (DepEd).

Yano, 68, was appointed as the new head of the Department of Education (DepEd) after a long search for a replacement for the late Secretary of Education Florencio B. Yano.

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AUTOMATION

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Belo sex video consensual, says lawyer

By J. P. Lopez

THE LAYOFF OF ORCUTT BELLO VIDEO, a company that produced the controversial sex video, has admitted to having a video with former President of the Philippines, Corason B. Aquino.

Bello said that the video was "consensual" and that it was not "pornographic."

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Court scolds gov't lawyers on Legacy

By Herman Sarmiento

GOVERNMENT LAWYERS yesterday got a scolding from the Court of Appeals when it was discovered that respondents in a case involving the shuttered Legacy Group had not been given copies of a petition asking the Court to order their assets.

Justice Maria Villanueva said it would be unfair to the respondents—including Legacy senior Cesar de los Angeles and Legacy executives, as well as unnamed individuals—about the assets against them.

Freeze order

"It appears up to this date, petitioners had not furnished all the respondents copies of the petition," said Villanueva, who chairs the Special 2nd Division hearing a petition from the team Money Lendering Company (AMLC) for the Court to issue a freeze order on a retail and several money vehicles belonging to De los Angeles and Legacy officials.

"It's very simple. It's just procedure... If you don't want to abide, withdraw your petition," said Villanueva.

The Office of the Solicitor General (OSG) is representing the AMLC, the government watchdog body that tracks down money suspected to have come from illegal activities.

Yesterday's hearing was also in connection with the AMLC's petition for an extension of the freeze order on more than 1,000 bank accounts suspected to be related to the allegedly illegal and

fraudulent acts of the Legacy group.

No information

A number of respondents whose bank accounts have been frozen said they had no information on the allegations against them and how they can have the freeze order lifted.

"My client has not received a copy of the actual petition. She doesn't know what she's going to do and where she should go," said lawyer Antonio Benabito II, who represents Thelma Tio.

Tio said her telephone benefits were cancelled in her bank account.

Time constraints

OSG lawyer Hermenegildo Dizon said it cited time constraints to explain why the respondents have not been given copies of the petition.

Dizon said it was important to extend the freeze order "because the AMLC is still conducting an investigation... about the unlawful activities connected with these accounts of the respondents."

The AMLC is also seeking the extension of the freeze order on a yacht named Legacy three Expeditions, two BGV tenders and a few other motor vehicles in De los Angeles' name and those of other Legacy officials.

Small funds and personal companies belonging to the Legacy group are alleged to have transferred the funds by deposit money for deposit which ended up being stolen by the group's officials.

LANDMARK APPLIANCE BLOWOUT

RAFFLE PROMO

30 UNITS

Markes of Canada
Assault Rifle Window Type
(MSRP: \$1,000)



30 UNITS

Haier
German Quality
Personal Refrigerator
(MSRP: \$1,000)



50 UNITS

Thinking of you...
Electrolux
Juice Extractor
(MSRP: \$1,000)



50 UNITS

Thinking of you...
Electrolux
Grind & Brew
(MSRP: \$1,000)

Thinking of you...
Electrolux
Ingenio Hope Filter
Vacuum Cleaner (MSRP: \$1,000)



See posters for complete details.

THE LANDMARK MAKATI TRINOMA

SEC transferred from DOF to DTI

By Christine E. Espino

THE SECURITIES AND Exchange Commission (SEC) is now under the administrative supervision of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) as a result of the government's revamping of government agencies.

The SEC was moved from the Department of Finance (DOF) to the DTI to facilitate coordination of policy and programs in the field of trade, industry and investment, according to President Benigno Aquino III's Executive Order No. 950.

Executive Secretary Eduardo Iñiguez said the decision was made because the DTI was the primary agency which the SEC was involved in, and "more so in relation to the portfolio of the DTI as the particular economic sector."

"The President thought that it would be better to transfer the supervision to the DTI," he said.

regimes.

"The Department of Trade and Industry is the primary coordinator, promoter, facilitator, and regulatory arm of the government in the area of trade, industry and investment," Mr. Iñiguez said in the EO.

The SEC received heavy criticism for its handling of troubled financial companies.

Failure to investigate

Earlier this month, Sen. Manuel Eraso criticized SEC officials for supposedly failing to investigate their own people, partly responsible for the problems in the financial industry.

In April, the commission resolved the license of President Pineda Inc. to sell prepaid plans because of a defective credit line.

Jose Nino, Pineda's president, blamed the global financial crisis for the delinquency.

COME & visit "THE FRIEND" Hong Kong Seafood Restaurant! Authentic Chinese cuisine that serves great food at reasonable prices. It is located at Room 114, Prince Computer, CCE in Plaza. Aside from having a fine dining, we also offer business gatherings such as seminars, meetings, conventions and the like. For inquiries, please contact our reservation desk at tel. nos. 833-2388, 833-2388. Fax no. 833-2388 and mobile no. 897-5348-2388 or visit our website www.legendofhongkong.com/index.html



INQUIRER *Southern Luzon*

1-mill. in gradual environmental
Biodiversity report highlights

Editor: Jon Bondevoy
Bureau Chief: Florio G. Soliman

Race on to save dying Naga River



Flood victims continue to wade their road in the polluted Naga River.

By Jonna Cabales Solares
Naga City

WHERE THE NAGA AND Ilocos rivers meet, local and alien fishermen gather from sunrise to sunset daily to catch their meal in the grayish black waters that have become a pathetic lifeline of the poor in Naga City.

Roberto Maga, 23, would come in the evenings to Berrigay fishing in 5 a.m. to catch fish for the street.

"Fishing was once a passion. I am doing it now because I have no work. I fish every day so I could provide food for my family," says Maga to flick, a carpenter who sometimes works as a construction helper. He has been fishing in the Berrigay since he was 5 years old.

"There were days when I did not have a catch, but there were also times when I caught about four kilos of fish before I went home in the afternoon," he says. Among his catch, he says, were carps, barbow (dud), tilapia, payo (perch), and the mudfish-like

species locally called "tubla."

A deadly monster is him if the fish come from the river that has been dumped with garbage from the public market and restaurants, human waste and all those residues mixed in the water.

The river "is becoming polluted day by day," Maga says. Still, he says, "the fish I catch are still good to eat, except for the carp which sometimes turn out to be poisonous."

The river, an official source, though, he adds, "We are used to it. We just accept whatever [fish] we catch."

Dr. Antonio V. Tito, a medical officer of the city health office, says eating poisonous food could lead to stomach and liver problems that result in vomiting, constipation and diarrhea.

"Chronic consumption of fish in the river may cause malnutrition. Food may accumulate in the body of the consumer, leading to further serious complications," he says.

The city health office, however, has yet to receive reports or complaints from persons getting sick from eating contaminated fish.

While the fishermen are getting along in the presence of the river's pollution, the city of Naga says none of the fish, other fish and fish are not food-grade for eating.

'Class C' rating

In 1997, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources placed the worst quality of the Naga River as "Class D," meaning it is fit only for agriculture, irrigation and livestock. It was upgraded to "Class C" in 2006, or water for fishing recreation and supply for manufacturing processes after treatment.

Water quality is also categorized from Class A to "D." Class "D" means water quality is fit for primary contact recreation (e.g., bathing, swimming, skin diving, etc.).

The language would still have been unclear, saying a "fisher taking" (from the river) projects from May 8, 2008, with the fish catchers keeping watch against pollution.

"We also have to report to our personnel about garbage along the river," says Isabela Councilor Orlando dela Cruz, chair of the language committee on environmental protection and sanitation. "There are still some who secretly and irresponsibly dump garbage."

The program also includes regular clean-up work and information dissemination.

City ordinance

City Mayor Roy Soliman for the "solid-line" implementation of an ordinance that prohibits the throwing of garbage and putting materials that harm aquatic life.

In 2003, Naga passed Ordinance No. 2000, which bans the throwing of garbage into the river, which "constitutes a serious threat to the health and safety of the people."

The law prohibits "throwing [or] any act of liquid waste or solid waste or dead animal" into the river and "any waste material" of the Naga River, and the laying of pipes that allow waste from houses or other sources to flow into the river.

Penalties range from P500 to P2,000 for, and a monthly imprisonment.

The ordinance also requires the police to arrest violators.

Market wastes

When it comes, city environment and natural resources officer, says the city government has been strictly implementing the ordinance. But he acknowledges that one of the biggest sources of solid and liquid wastes comes from the river is the public market, which the city government administers.

Employees from the stand along General Luna Street and J. M. Dela Cruz Avenue, he says, "We directly into the Naga River, he said. The market is between the two thoroughfares."

According to Dela Cruz, his office has made sure that solid wastes from the market are properly collected.

Sanitation residents would have behind waste materials left after garbage collection had passed by. These waste materials, he says, would go to the river when the rains come," he says.

To address the problem, Dela Cruz says the city government, in cooperation with the agency for Environment Development, is working to water treatment facilities to filter sewage from the market, before dump and city officials before it reaches the river.

He says his office has spearheaded regular clean-up activities in partnership with other government agencies.

In February and March, 50 people were assigned to reducing the pollution. These were engaged in cleaning and maintaining the river without any water in the river.

Delacruz says the allegation that floating vessels were spilling oil into the river are being investigated. "It is found to be true, we will be the appropriate response."

Delacruz says the residents of the area in the river are simply riding away from, many were doing it because of poverty.

This is the reason the language wants to protect the river, he says. "To keep city fish."

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SPORTS

RP Open 10-Ball: Souquet too sharp for Ouschan

By Gerald R. Torres
A CHANGE IN MINDSET WORKED FOR World No. 1 Bill Souquet of Germany in the Philippine Open 10-Ball Championship yesterday.
In his first career victory of the title of the World No. 1, Souquet overcame a 9-8 deficit to defeat Ouschan in the final 10-9.

Painters, Whoppers give foes the boot

By Gerald R. Torres
It was a tough day for the crowd of 10 in the 10-Ball Championship, but the crowd was not the only one who was not happy. It was the crowd that was not happy. It was the crowd that was not happy.

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POC says it will bankroll country's AYG bets

By James Navarro
The Philippine Olympic Committee will help fund the country's bets in the Asian Youth Games (AYG) in the Philippines. The POC will bankroll the country's bets in the AYG.

Safina continues French Open roll

By James Navarro
Serena Williams continued her winning streak at the French Open, defeating Venus Williams in the second round. Williams won the match 6-3, 6-1.

Picco, Ababa rule FCWT tilt

By James Navarro
The Philippine Football Federation (PFF) announced that it will be holding a tournament in the Philippines. The PFF will be holding a tournament in the Philippines.

Engino matches par, trails 2 Malaysians

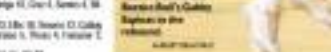
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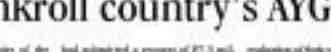
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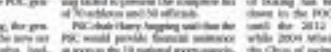
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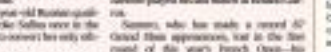
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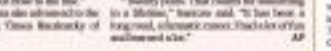
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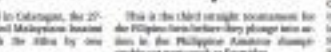
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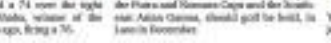
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Stags whip Archers; Blazers, Falcons up

By James Navarro
The Philippine Football Federation (PFF) announced that it will be holding a tournament in the Philippines. The PFF will be holding a tournament in the Philippines.

Team	W	L	D	GF	GA
Blazers	1	0	0	1	0
Falcons	1	0	0	1	0
Archers	0	1	0	0	1
Stags	0	1	0	0	1

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The WORLD

Editor Lawrence B. Santos

N. Korea restarts weapons-grade nuke plant

SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA—NORTH KOREA launched a trade on Wednesday against world powers threatening to punish it for conducting its second nuclear test, saying it is not afraid of sanctions and calling South Korea's decision to join an operation to prevent the spread of weapons a declaration of war.

The North also has reportedly restarted its weapons-grade nuclear plant. It staged a rally in its capital, Pyongyang, on Tuesday to celebrate its latest nuclear test. The isolated communist state usually would support with military action if South Korea tried to stop or punish any of its steps as part of the U.S.-led Pacific nuclear security initiative. Seoul joined the initiative on Tuesday.

"Those who promote (South Korea) may well not be able to escape its unpredictable and unending persecution," the North's official news agency said. South Korea's news agency said that South Korea's newspaper and TV news agency reported on Wednesday that U.S. military forces deployed at least 10,000 troops to the North's border area.

The move would be a major setback for efforts aimed at getting North Korea to disarm. South Korea had hoped on preventing fuel rods from re-



NORTH KOREA military and party officials celebrate their country's second successful nuclear test at the Pyongyang Juche Stadium on Tuesday. The isolated communist state has called at worldwide condemnation for the test.

enough to make at least one nuclear bomb, according to experts. North Korea is believed to have enough plutonium for at least a half dozen atomic bombs.

Further enlarging its arsenal, North Korea has fired five short-range missiles over the past two days, North Korean officials confirmed.

In New York, the U.N. Security Council is discussing a resolution that could include new sanctions.

Analysts fear the first government move will be to cut off aid to North Korea. The U.S. has said it will not cut off aid to North Korea, but it will cut off aid to North Korea's military and government.

North Korea

North Korea has reportedly restarted its weapons-grade nuclear plant. It staged a rally in its capital, Pyongyang, on Tuesday to celebrate its latest nuclear test.



An international deal in 2007, Pyongyang agreed to shut the Yongbyon nuclear reactor in exchange for aid and dismantled a cooling tower at the complex.

The North has about 6,000 tons of fuel rods which, if processed, could allow it to have six to eight kilograms of plutonium.

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SEOUL WORKERS carry a police officer who was wounded in Wednesday's car bomb attack on the intelligence agency building in eastern Pakistan.

Car bomb kills 30, hurts 250 in Lahore



WOMEN anxiously wait word on their husband's fate following the roadside blast in Lahore.

in a major business district. The collapse of operating rooms in a nearby hospital also collapsed, injuring 30 people.

Agencies, known as the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) agency were among the dead.

The explosion, the first in the city, occurred on a busy street in the heart of the city. The explosion killed 30 people and injured 250.

The explosion caused the collapse of the building and the collapse of the building. The explosion caused the collapse of the building and the collapse of the building.

BUSINESS

BSP urged to lower rates further

By Michelle Y. Reyes

THREE ECONOMISTS—FROM the University of the Philippines, the La Salle University and University of Asia and the Pacific—believe that the foreign central bank should slash its key interest rates further as the Monetary Board meets today to decide whether or not to continue with the easing of monetary policy.

Robert Townsend, the BSP has already cut its policy rate by a total of 230 basis points, aiming to ensure sufficient liquidity in

But fiscal boost also needed

the banking system necessary to sustain growth at the domestic economy during a global financial crisis.

The ongoing debate is whether the BSP has already done enough or if it needs to cut the key policy rate some more. The average borrowing and lending rates currently stand at 4.5 and 6.5 percent, respectively. Julius Manalang, a BSP economics professor, said the fact that inflation is low and a likely

to discourage further in the coming months allows the BSP some leeway in policy measures.

"There is still room for the BSP to cut the rates some more. Inflation is low, there will be no problem at all if it further [eases] monetary policy," Manalang said. The business is a pleasant surprise.

The said policy-makers need state-of-the-art of the low-inflation environment to consider the problem of a slowing economy

"The economy must pick up from the slowdown, and expansionary monetary policy will help," Manalang said.

"So by how much the BSP should cut the rates is up to them to decide based on relevant data that they have," Manalang added. He said the BSP was on the doing a good job at handling monetary policy.

President Benigno Aquino III said a 25-basis point cut in the policy rate would be reasonable. This would already help increase the amount of funds banks would be willing to lend to the public.

Tanduang invests P500M in new Negros distillery

By Dora C. Duran

PROCESOR LOGIC TANDUANG Holdings Inc. is investing about P500 million in a new distillery in Negros Occidental this year, which is part of its plan to diversify its operations.

Tanduang chief executive officer (CEO) Theodore Theodore told reporters that the investment in the new distillery has been completed, but the company is still awaiting a permit from the local government. He said the target is to start operations by December this year.

"We will add 300,000 liters of alcohol per day in terms of capacity from our existing 120,000 liters per year," Theodore said.

"What this, hopefully, we want to do is to import as

source from other suppliers. We have two distilleries now—Abadilla Chemicals and Adam Chemicals and we're getting 100 percent of our sugar—but it's still not enough," Theodore said.

The local government has yet to issue a permit in Tanduang and complaints from communities within the coastal barangays of Palawan.

Theodore said that for this year, the company is on track to meet its net profit growth target of about P400 million versus the P300 million posted in 2008. He said that since volume would likely grow by 5 percent over last year's.

In the first quarter, he noted that volume growth was only at 3 percent versus the 14-percent growth a year ago.

First Gen eyes new gas-fired plant

By Amy R. Nolasco

LOPEZ-GONZALEZ (LGP) is set to build a 300-megawatt (MW) gas-fired power plant in the Philippines. The company is looking for a partner to build and operate the plant.

The plant is set to be built in the Philippines. The company is looking for a partner to build and operate the plant.

and 500-MW gas (LGP) is set to build a 300-megawatt (MW) gas-fired power plant in the Philippines.

"That is, if new supplies are made available from the Central Luzon area or elsewhere," Lopez said.

The plant is set to be built in the Philippines. The company is looking for a partner to build and operate the plant.

there is no new capacity being built in anticipation of future improvements," Lopez explained.

Lopez also noted that First Gen's acquisition of a controlling interest in Energy Development Corp. allowed it to "have capacity in the Visayas and Mindanao grids, and much larger business for expansion in both areas."

"When no generating plants were being added, we had to look for alternative capacity that is linked

to globalized energy, a clean and sustainable source of power, and by hydroelectric means," he said.

"In the meantime, we have been the largest Philippine-owned power generating company in the country with a total capacity of generating 2,500 MW all over the country, and our leadership for expansion and growth has considerably been enhanced by our acquisition of EDC," Lopez further noted.

Farmers to get insurance protection against calamities

By Rita T. Ochoa

THE GOVERNMENT HAS signed a deal with leading insurers to encourage farmers to get protection from the adverse financial effects caused by natural calamities and plant diseases.

The Philippine Crop Insurance Corp. (PCIC) and Agriculture Sec-

retary Carlos J. Lopez signed an agreement with the Rural Bankers Association of the Philippines (RBAP), Cooperative Bankers Association of the Philippines (CBAAP), and the National Association of Banks in the Philippines (NABP).

PCIC and Agriculture Sec-

retary Carlos J. Lopez and his predecessor Jose C. Bernabe signed the deal on behalf of the government.

"Crop insurance is much more critical under a liberalized trading order and in times of climate change, both of which are happening now," Lopez said.

"This year, for example, maize has a much better, and if we can

provide insurance for crops for some farmers, then at least they have the confidence to keep farming, and the lending conditions will have the confidence to continue lending," he said.

Bernabe said that PCIC, which is subsidizing the 2009 crop insurance, expects more farmers from the scheme with the help of new partners.

"This is the first time in our history that we signed [up] these big groups to continue to protect crop insurance and meet require-

ments for crop insurance coverage from PCIC so that there is no interruption of the insurance coverage from the government," he said.

PCIC president Tomas C. Garcia Jr. pledged the cooperation of 300 member banks to encourage their farmer-members to avail of crop insurance coverage from PCIC so that there is no interruption of the insurance coverage from the government," he said.

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Where to get authentic, exquisite Hainanese Chicken Rice



Tao Yuan's version is perfectly done—including the sauces

WHERE TO GET HAWAIIAN
Chicken Rice was the million-dollar question, until the owners of The Nam Restaurant—H. Moon and Maribeth Wong, Steve Yap and their partners—thought that Yap-Rak was the answer.

Chief Pop's Hilarious Chick
 on *Boyz* is authentic and explosive, the chicken as many teachers just wish a defecation tale.

KITCHEN RESCUE

Mingyue
A. Ouyang

The rim—well, the kind of
ruth I don't mind looking up on.
It is just as beautiful. Everything
about it, including the curve, is
perfectly done.

Next Tuesday hosts a coming up, you might want to feast on the children: dine with your family. You must call in advance though, even if you decide to dine in. The State doesn't make sure that two children a day; make hours to make and don't take with. No call to reserve.

Chief Idris's cultural influences are so apparent in his cuisine, a perfect fusion of Malay and Singaporean, resulting in dishes that take your palate to the land of his origins. He was born in Malaysia and moved to Singapore when he was 10.

On my first visit, I had the delicious—fresh deep-frozen Merguez sausage with Manouri cheese.

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- Researcher, 48 years

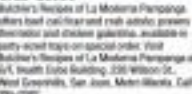
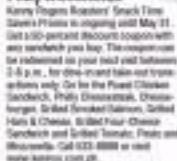
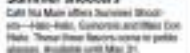
"At 3 a.m., I've noticed cellulite on some areas of my body. My thighs and lower part of my tummy resemble old. Manicure any fat. Instead Endometriosis. It targets the hard on much fat. I have results the day after the treatment! Now my thighs are thinner and my tummy flat again. People say, 'Wow, your thighs are so thin, going back to 45 years old!'"

— *Continued from page 10*

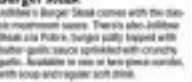
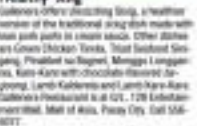
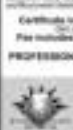
"I had liposuctions before, but then I regained fat which just worsened my weight problem. During my blow up, she said, 'I have no surgery and had more cellulite.' Just taking yoga might be. Endocrinology helped me a lot. It reduced my stored fat and cellulite—without the pain! It was actually relaxing. The very idealist! There's Endocrinology!"

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See footnote 1 on p. 104 for the definition of Δ .

Keywords: *depression, mood, mood disorder, mood disorder, mood disorder*

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RHINE
VILLALUZ
"She's a
girl!"

Not obsessed with being top Kapuso talent

By Rapai San Diego Jr.

RHINE VILLALUZ IS GRACIOUSLY perplexed that she's dubbed "GMA 7's No. 1 female star" a distinction confirmed by a well-placed network insider.

"I'm just happy that GMA 7 still treats my talents as a host, actor and singer," Rhine said in an exclusive interview with *Entertainment Weekly*.

Being the unofficial Kapuso Queen is not a silly boast, she insisted. "I don't obsess about status. I always remind myself that I'm just fortunate to still be working—though there are times I almost didn't."

Naturally, the flip side of being No. 1 is being personally busy. Rhine is managed with work, and it's not on television daily.

Mean machine

Washington, the apocryphal opposite of the "she's a" "boy" duo. "Saturday evening, she looks so lovely when she's on the set," she said. "I don't feel like a person now," she said, implying that she's had to function like a machine. "But it's good. Work is a blessing."

For "Star Big Star," it's not uncommon for her to wrap up in the wee hours of morning. "It's because at the start we had

NOTES



Gibson GF pregnant

LOS ANGELES—MEL GIBSON SAYS in his new film *The Last Airborne* he's expecting his baby. "This is one," Gibson, 51, said on "The Tonight Show With Jay Leno" when asked to confirm speculation that married Gibson's girlfriend is pregnant. Gibson has seven children with his wife of 28 years, Robyn, who said for privacy just months.

Reuters

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'Museum' overtakes 'Terminator'

The New Sister comedy won \$76 million over the *Menendez* film campaign, according to estimates from distributor 20th Century Fox. That put it well ahead of the *Five Nights at the Museum* movie, which had a \$50.4 million theatrical run through December 2008.

"Emergency Subvention" pulled in \$55.5 million—(A&E \$13.4 million on opening day Thursday—beating the postapocalyptic action film starring Christian Bale and Gene Wilder) in \$62.2 million more, debating, or confounding the *Shogun* film crew.

Universal's *Wild Tales* The Family Through
Mystery at US and Canadian Theaters, available
on DVD and Blu-ray

[illegible]

Not obsessed

The only complaint about work is that it takes her away from beloved *Opie*. "I get to see my Henry Clay on Saturdays," [she] says. "I don't get to see my Henry on Sundays." The saddest thing she adds: that *Opie* is occupied with work, too. "He has three TV shows [*Florida Guy*, *Wife in the Mail*, and *SNP*] and two movies [*OMG*] with Judy Ann Gerson and *Spangled Red: Vera and Angelina*," with *Wicked* V.

The researchers make an analogy there as possible but not certain. The victim one, picks me up, and we go out... but

Just when they had such a "time," she said, was for the Judy Ann Santos-Ryan Aguirre wedding in San Juan, Batangas, on April 26. Pughie and Ogle sang "The Power" for the Giffney couple, she says.

They've grown close to the Aguilera and would sometimes go out on

Does she also get herself working down the side road? "I don't really like that," Higgins said. "Actually, we cannot place yet. We cannot even talk about it [Higgins' involvement case from time with Michelle van Diermen is ongoing]. But I'm happy for Jodie and Ryan. They've gone through a lot as a

Autism Spectrum Disorder

[illegible]

SHANG
CINEPLEX

1 TERMINATOR: SALVATION
PG-13
12:30, 2:15, 4:00, 5:45, 10:00

2 NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM 2
G
12:30, 2:45, 5:45, 7:30, 10:00

3 TERMINATOR: SALVATION
PG-13
4:15, 6:30, 8:00, 9:30

4 ANGEL & CREWING
R
12:00, 2:00, 8:00, 9:00

TERMINATOR: SALVATION
PG-13
5:00, 5:30, 6:25, 9:00

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1 NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM 2	6 HOUSE
2 ANGELS & DEMONS	7 WOLFGANG / STAR TREK XI
3 THE ACCIDENTAL HUSBAND	8 LITONERO
4 NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM 2	9 HEAVENLY CREW
5 ANGELS & DEMONS	10 BFF: BEST FRIEND FOREVER

ERMITA	
1 NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM 2	4 NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM 2
2 ANGELS & DEMONS	5 BFF: BEST FRIEND FOREVER
3 THE ACCIDENTAL HUSBAND	6 HOUSE
	7 LITONERO

METRO EAST	
1 ANGELS & DEMONS	5 ANGELS & DEMONS
2 NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM 2	6 3 MEN ORIGINS: WOLVERINE
3 BFF: BEST FRIEND FOREVER	7 LITONERO
4 HOUSE	8 GED: NINJA GI LOLO

NOVALICHES	
1 ANGELS & DEMONS	3 BFF: BEST FRIENDS FOREVER
2 NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM 2	4 (L)SONERS

PIONEER	
1 ANGELS & DEMONS	2 THE ACCIDENTAL HUSBAND

2 NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM 2
SINE DIREK
Imagines
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agaton & mindy

STA. ROSA	LIPA
1 ANGELS & DEMONS	1 ANGELS & DEMONS
2 NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM 2	2 OFF: BEST FRIENDS FOREVER
3 OFF: BEST FRIENDS FOREVER	3 BORN CRYING: WOLVERINE
4 MAJOR MOVIE STAR	4 THEY WAIT

BASMARINAS	INUS
1 ANGELS & DEMONS	1 ANGELS & DEMONS
2 BFF... BEST FRIENDS FOREVER	2 RAIN-ORIGINS: WOLVERINE
3 NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM 2	3 BFF... BEST FRIENDS FOREVER
4 MAJOR MOVIE STAR	4 MAJOR MOVIE STAR

ANGELES	
12 MEN ORIGINAL: WOLVERINE	2 NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM 2
3 OFF: DESTINY FOREVER	4 STAR TREK

STARBUCKS		2017-2018	
1 ANGELS & DEMONS	4 MAJOR MOVIE STAR		
2 MVP: BEST FORWARD FOREVER	5 NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM II		
3 ANGELS & DEMONS	6 17 AGAIN		
BACOLOO	ILOILO		
1 ANGELS & DEMONS	1 ANGELS & DEMONS		

3 DIFF: BEST FRIENDS FOREVER
3 NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM 2
4 STAR TREK
5 DEAD NA G: LOLO
6 THEY WAIT

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Anand
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Crystal, Lily Tomlin,
Dwight Dennen,
Joan McClellan
and Future top-10
the Best episode of
"The Tonight show
with Jay Leno" on
May 20 on Jack TV.
The show airs live at
8 p.m., with a repeat
on Tuesday at 11
p.m.

Predicting it
to be "Ayer,"
which stands as
faced by Leno on
the radio where he
told Burton to put
it in his new ra-

GARY O'BRIEN'S
first show as the
new host of the
"Tonight Show"
will be aired on
August 2, with guests
Paul Anka and Will
Smith. Paul Anka
will perform songs
from his upcoming
studio album.

It will be tele-
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